

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE

April 21, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger
SUBJECT: B-52 Strikes in Cambodia

Attached at Tab A is a summary of B-52 strikes against enemy base areas in Cambodia between April 11 and April 22. A total of 140 sorties were flown against six targets during this period, resulting in 194 secondary explosions of up to ten times the normal size.

The strike against Base Area 609 during the night of April 17/18 proved particularly effective. Twenty-five secondaries up to ten times the normal size were reported and 79 bunkers were either damaged or destroyed. Observers who flew over the area after the strike reported that two camp sites with bunker complexes were also destroyed and two POL fires were still emitting black smoke.

Additional strikes are scheduled April 23/24.

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

USAF review
completed.

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<u>DATE OF STRIKE</u>	<u>SORTIES</u>	<u>TARGET AREA</u>	<u>RESULTS</u>
April 11/12	35	Base Area 609: Contains troop concentrations and a major logistical support area for enemy tactical operations in the western highlands of II Corps. Communist units involved in recent attacks against the Dak Seang, Dak Pek and Ben Het Special Forces Camps receive critical logistics support from this base area.	-- 49 secondaries up to five times the normal size. -- Estimated as damaged/destroyed were 52 bunkers and 5 structures. -- Evidence of heavy post-strike foot trail activity.
April 13/14	17	Base Area 351: Contains numerous supply depots, a major infiltration route, and troop concentrations.	-- 18 secondaries of up to five times the normal size. -- Estimated as damaged/destroyed were 13 bunkers and 17 structures. -- Scattered supplies and POL drums were observed along heavily used road.
April 13/14	18	Base Area 352/353: Contains an extensive road and trail network, a storage and staging area, troop concentrations, and traditional operating grounds for COSVN headquarters. (Map at Tab B)	-- Eight secondaries up to three times the normal size. -- 158 bunkers and 14 structures were damaged/destroyed and 26 cave-ins were reported.

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TOP SECRET-SENS No Objection to Declassification in Full 2010/05/11 : LOC-HAK-511-2-17-3

<u>DATE OF STRIKE</u>	<u>SORTIES</u>	<u>TARGET AREA</u>	<u>RESULTS</u>
April 17/18	17	Base Area 350	-- 48 secondaries up to five times the normal size. -- One camp site and 32 bunkers were estimated damaged/destroyed. -- One truck was seen burning. -- Moderate post-strike foot trail and vehicular activity was observed.
April 17/18	18	Base Area 609	-- 25 secondaries of up to ten times the normal size. -- Destroyed or damaged were 79 bunkers and 9 huts. -- Two camp sites with bunker complexes had been destroyed and four others had sustained extensive damage. -- A high level of post-strike activity was evidenced by fresh trails at 21 locations. -- Post-strike air observers reported that 2 POL fires were still emitting black smoke and two other fires were still burning.

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<u>DATE OF STRIKE</u>	<u>SORTIES</u>	<u>TARGET AREA</u>	<u>RESULTS</u>
April 20/21	35	Base Area 352	-- 46 secondary explosions up to ten times the normal size were reported. *

* Based on preliminary bomb damage assessment.

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